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Jane Dee Hull, Governor  
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DATE: February 10, 1995  
TO: Laboratory Director and QA Manager  
FROM: Wesley B. Press, Acting Bureau Chief  
SUBJECT: Information Update #1  
NOTE: If any problems occur with this web site, please call 1-800-952-0374 or (602) 255-3454 extension 205, 221 or 222. Thank You.

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1. "Field Screening Methods for Hazardous Wastes and Toxic Chemicals", February 22-24, 1995, Tropicana Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Advance registration cost = \$250.00, Deadline February 3, 1995. On-site registration cost = \$290.00.  
Contact person for registration: Eric Koglin, (702)798-2432

2. The Arizona State Laboratory Services is co-sponsoring a training forum with the Arizona Laboratory Association, March 23-24, 1995 at the Biosphere 2, Oracle, Arizona. The focus of this training is instrumentation & related methods. The Hewlett Packard GC/MS, Perkin Elmer ICP 3000 XL and the Biosphere Laboratory Information System (BLIS) will be demonstrated. Mr. Llewellyn Williams is the keynote speaker and will discuss the importance of QA/QC in the laboratory. Mr. Ted Martin and Ms. Jean Munch of the USEPA will be joining us for a Question & Answer session on methods related to these instruments.

The registration fee for this workshop will be approximately \$75.00. Brochures will be mailed out to all the laboratories soon. Initially, registration is limited to one person per laboratory. Please make your own arrangements for hotel accommodations, if needed, as soon as possible at Biosphere 2 (602) 896-6222 or hotels nearby. Come join us for a fun educational update. For information regarding registration contact Charmaine D'Souza at (602) 255-3454.

3. Copies of the Final Update of the Third Edition of SW-846, effective January 13, 1995, are available by calling (202) 783-3238 at a cost of \$319.00. The GPO document number is 955-001-00000-1. This update adds new and revised methods.
4. Federal Register Publication, dated December 5, 1994, Vol 59, No.232 / Rules and Regulations, containing updated versions of previously approved methods in drinking water can be obtained by calling (800) 426-4791.

5. "Technical Notes on Drinking Water Methods" (a publication from EPA regarding the above modifications, clarifications, options or improvements to the approved methods can be obtained by calling (513) 569-7586.

6. 418.1AZ QUESTIONS

- **QUESTION:** "In regard to Method 418.1AZ how are the final results to be reported, on an 'as received' basis or on a 'dry weight' basis? The method does not specify."

**RESPONSE:** Section 9 of the method allows for reporting of results on either an 'as received' or 'dry weight' basis. When an 'as received' basis is being reported, section 9.1 of the method requires that "the moisture content is reported separately."

- **QUESTION:** "If reporting on an 'as received' basis, the moisture content would seem to be an extraneous step."

**RESPONSE:** When reporting on an 'as received' basis, the moisture content is a required step and the result must be reported on the final report.

- **QUESTION:** "Why not allow the analyst to make a judgement call on whether to do a moisture determination based on whether the sample is free-flowing vs. an obvious mud?"

**RESPONSE:** A visual observation is not quantitative. The method requires that an analytically determined moisture content be reported on the final report.

- **QUESTION:** "How much QA/QC will be required to go along with this very empirical 'moisture' determination? Hopefully there will be no need for duplicates or reference standards, since none exist."

**RESPONSE:** The method does not specify any QA/QC requirements for this gravimetric determination. We suggest that the lab follow good laboratory practice guidelines in determining how much QA/QC it will use in this determination.

- **QUESTION:** "If moisture content needs to be determined, can disposable aluminum weighing pans be substituted for glass beakers?"

**RESPONSE:** An alternative weighing vessel may be used if it will remain inert throughout the determination.

- **QUESTION:** "Moisture determinations on samples found to be ND (<20 mg/kg) would be redundant and could be omitted. Correct?"

**RESPONSE:** The moisture content will yield a higher TPH value when converted to 'dry weight'. The required reporting level of 20 mg/kg must be met after the moisture content is taken into consideration.

- **QUESTION:** "Because of (the previous question) above, all reporting of data should be on an 'as received' basis."

**RESPONSE:** The method allows for reporting on an 'as received' basis but if one chooses to do so then one must also include the moisture content on the final report.

7. If you have any questions regarding the Updates, or if you have any technical questions that need clarification, please call or send [e-mail](#) to Prabha Acharya, Program Manager, Technical Resources and Training at the Laboratory Licensure. A [table of contents](#) to all the Information Updates published is also available.

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